

AMENDMENT(S) TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please substitute the following paragraph for the paragraph beginning on page 5, line 22:

The uncoated web side 1a is assigned a known suction box ~~5b~~ 5 in the region of the point of incidence P located above suction ~~box~~ zone 5b. Suction box ~~5b~~ 5 sucks air L through the porous web 1 and, as a result, attracts the curtain 3 falling down onto the active side of suction box 5 towards web side 1b. As a result, the desired anchoring of curtain 3 to web side 1b takes place and, in addition, it is ensured that there is a uniform distribution and wetting of the application medium M over the entire web width.

Please substitute the following paragraph for the paragraph beginning on page 6, line 4:

In order to improve its suction action, the suction box ~~5b~~ 5 is provided with sealing elements 7 at its end on the feed and discharge sides. The sealing element considered is both brushes set against web side 1a and flexible or rigid doctor strips. The flexible or rigid doctor strips may make contact with the web side 1a or else be arranged at a short distance from it.